

**Christ Church is Making Connections
& Offering Opportunities for Faith, Love & Service**

Weekly Update - April 17, 2019

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



A Word From Pastor Daven

Getting Gas

My car informed me that I had 40 miles left I could travel before I would be out of gas. It seems never a convenient time whether by virtue of a need to meet the school bus at home, run off to the hospital, or just less than optimal conditions for standing outside. Why is it that the gas station is the coldest, windiest, rainiest, snowiest place? However, it is either honor the need or end up stranded.

Holy Week is a time when it can feel as we journey through it that the needle is creeping toward empty. Whether that is due to the exhaustion of emotions evoked as we walk alongside Jesus, recalling the final days of his life, or a general weariness in the face of churches burned in Mississippi or the recent images of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris engulfed in flames, we ponder where our faith stands in the midst of challenge. How much further can we go? What more can we take? What does it all amount to? How will we have enough to make it?

They are not easy questions. In fact, they may be easier just to ignore. We risk being stranded if we are inattentive or unwilling to face reality. Holy Week asks of us to honor the need to ask the question, to seek the answer or end up stranded.

Just when we think we can go no further, as we stand in our darkest moment in the coldest time, dawn will come. Christ will fill us with hope and peace as the Holy Spirit guides us on. We may not have all the questions answered, but we will have all we need to continue the journey.

Daily Bible Reading – 2019

Shaping Our Life Experience

Excerpts from both the Old and New Testament are included each day. This is a great way to support your ongoing growth in faith and the Christ Church community as well.

April 17: 1 Samuel 22-24; Luke 16:1-18

April 18: 1 Samuel 25-26; Luke 16:19-31

April 19: 1 Samuel 27-29; Luke 17:1-19

April 20: 1 Samuel 30-31; Luke 17:20-37

April 21: 2 Samuel 1-3; Luke 18:1-17

April 22: 2 Samuel 4-6; Luke 18:18-43

April 23: 2 Samuel 7-9; Luke 19:1-28

Joys

Joy! \$305 was received from Sunday's 2nd Helping offering for **embraceWNY**, a local organization that gives Community Grants and Educational Scholarships to local college students.

In Our Healing Prayers

Judy Radel - receiving palliative care

Karen Phillips - recovering from hip replacement

Carolyn Flynn, Virginia 'Ginny' Molin, The Swenson Family, The Webber Family, Joyce Moser, Bob Varian, Jan Rhinehart, Harold Weaver, Lynne Beller, Janet Hill, Sissie Mooney, Mary Jane Shanley, Bruce Burr, Sue Estee, Frank Annunziata, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola

*Those who are **care partners** with others

*Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson serving in the US Navy

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, April 17 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 18 - 1pm- 'Thirstaid' Thursday
**7pm- Maundy Thursday Worship Service
with Footwashing and Communion**

Friday, April 19 - *Office Closes at Noon*
12 Noon- Labyrinth Walk at Daemen College
(leaving from Christ Church)
5:30pm- Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 21 - Easter Sunday!
10am - Worship Service

Supervised Child Care, Sky Box and Family Worship Space available

*Visit the **Café Connection** each Sunday morning and enjoy delicious, fair trade, **New Day Coffee**, morning treats and friendly conversation.*

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 18

Worship Service at 7 p.m. with Footwashing & Communion

Good Friday, April 19

Labyrinth Walk at 12 p.m.

Tenebrae Service at 5:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 21

Worship Service at 10 a.m.

Do you want to
make a
difference?

Food & Supplies Needed for Local Families

In addition to the food that goes to local food pantries, Christ Church serves local families in need. The following items are needed:

cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, personal hygiene products, deodorant, and soap.

The Tiger's Den is collecting **tuna fish, juice, and canned fruit** (*not fruit cocktail*) in April.

Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

Friends in Need

Marion Chalmers is looking for someone to call a couple times each year to assist with purchasing and transporting cases of water from the grocery store to her condo. **Bob Varian** is requesting help with an upcoming move. If you are able to help with either of these requests, please contact the church office (cumc350@gmail.com or 839-2460). Thank you!

Make A Difference Day

Make a Difference Day is Sunday, May 19!

Sign-ups have begun! Check out project listings on the bulletin board in the Family Room and in Sunday's bulletin. A FREE shredding truck will be available for safe destruction of documents, and a Bloodmobile from the American Red Cross will be on-site.



Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon**, Pastor Daven leads a time exploring the upcoming Sunday's Scripture. This will provide context to the Scripture(s) being explored and ultimately enrich the experience of worship itself. All are welcome anytime!

Thirstaid Thursdays

You are invited to join in 'Thirstaid' Thursdays
each Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Wesley Room!

"Hope When Your Heart Breaks (Navigating Grief and Loss)"

Facilitators: Pastor Daven, Peggy Bermudez, Dr. David Pliss

We'll look at how life experiences challenge us and how God powerfully uses the gifts of prayer, presence, and witness to move us and others through these times to thrive again.

Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra

The GBYO, a group of talented students who rehearse at Christ Church each week, will be performing a side-by-side concert with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. The concert will be held at Kleinhans Music Hall on Sunday, April 28 at 2:30p.m. All are welcome to attend this free concert!

The Night must come before the Dawn..



Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Worship at 10 am

Educational Opportunities at 11 am